







# WFP Democratic Republic of the Congo

Situation Report #47 – 1 June 2023

## Highlights

- Activation of Corporate Scale-Up Response:** A Corporate Scale-up Response has been activated for DRC as of 1 June. The complex humanitarian crisis in DRC driven by armed conflict, displacement, natural disasters, and chronic poverty in the three eastern provinces (North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri) has dramatically worsened in recent months with escalations of violence between armed groups. Despite WFP's ongoing response in eastern DRC and a scale-up of operations, the growing gap between the number of people in need and those being reached with food assistance is widening due to funding shortfalls.
- New IPC numbers:** The latest revised integrated food security phase classification (IPC) analysis estimates that 6.7 million people (34 percent of the population) are in crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity in three eastern provinces (North and South Kivu and Ituri). This signifies a 10 percent rise in food insecurity since the conflict escalated in 2023.
- Insecurity in the East:** In Ituri, 150 civilians were killed in the first two weeks of April by Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), Cooperative for the Development of the Congo (CODECO), Zaire and other armed groups. Assailants of the Cooperation for the Development of Congo (CODECO) group ambushed and looted 30 mt of food from a WFP-contracted truck which they consequently burned down, while it was on its way to deliver humanitarian assistance to internally displaced people (IDP) living in Roe IDP site.
- Increased displacement:** According to UNCHR's latest figures, 5.6 million people are now internally displaced in

	<b>25.8 m<sup>1</sup> highly food-insecure people</b> (51% female/49% male) (50% children/50% adults)
	<b>26 provinces affected</b>
	<b>6.3 m people displaced <sup>2</sup></b>
	<b>6.1 m people reached in 2022</b> (58% female/ 42%male) (63% children/ 37% adults)

Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu out of the 6.2 million internally displaced people across the whole country. This includes 330,000 people that were displaced in March 2023 alone.

## Situation Update

- Eastern DRC:** There is renewed insecurity and displacement with dramatically worsening conditions in eastern DRC. The deteriorating security situation has been a core driver of the continuous increase in humanitarian needs for vulnerable populations. Displaced people who are returning to their villages in areas where fighting has ceased are facing challenges with rebuilding livelihoods and meeting their basic needs. Additionally, they even face the threat of renewed violence and displacement.
- In Ituri, a wave of intercommunity violence was recorded in a long series of retaliatory attacks between the Cooperative for the Development of the Congo (CODECO) and Zaire militias in April. As a result, thousands of people are fleeing their homes each day to escape the violence.

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

<sup>2</sup> As per [UNHCR data](#)

- WFP is scaling up its operations to reach a greater caseload of people in need of food assistance in the East as the conflict intensifies.

## WFP Response

- Under the revised Country Strategic Plan 2021-2024, WFP continues its large-scale operation targeting **7.1 million** people with food, nutrition, and resilience support in 2023<sup>3</sup>.

### Food and Nutrition Assistance (April 2023)

- **Overview:** In April, WFP assisted **1 million unique beneficiaries across all activities (including School Feeding and Resilience)**. WFP reached 282,000 people with cash-based transfers (CBT), 442,000 with in-kind assistance, and 182,000 with malnutrition treatment and prevention supplies. The main challenges that affected progress in the month were delays caused by insecurity, inaccessibility and food shortages. For May, WFP prepositioned stock at distribution sites in eastern DRC to improve the lead time to distributions.
- **Kasaï:** WFP reached **107,000 people** with in-kind assistance cash and malnutrition treatment supplies. Due to challenges in supply chains, distributions were limited with some components of the food basket missing such as pulses and oil. To address this issue, WFP facilitated the delivery of the missing commodities from Kananga to ensure continued distribution and to meet the standard kilocalorie requirements for people in need.
- **Kasai Central and Kasai Oriental:** WFP assisted **159,000 people** with cash assistance and malnutrition treatment supplies. In-kind assistance was limited during the reporting period owing to very long transit times. Some transporters took over two weeks to arrive at sites because the main supply route was severed by bad road conditions and a lengthy alternative was being used.
- **Tanganyika:** WFP supported **151,000 people** with in-kind food, cash, and malnutrition treatment and prevention supplies. Trucks carrying remaining commodities for distributions were stuck in transit due to the bad road conditions exacerbated by rains and this hampered distributions.
- **North Kivu:** WFP reached **170,000 people** with in-kind assistance, cash and malnutrition treatment and prevention supplies. Distributions were hampered by the shortage of cereals. Simultaneously, an analysis of the feasibility of cash-based transfer modality in the province was conducted to analyze market trends, security concerns, access issues, preferences and acceptability to inform cash programming for the local context in the coming months.
- **Ituri:** WFP assisted **207,000 people** with food assistance, cash and malnutrition treatment. Due to widespread insecurity and threats, WFP worked closely with its cooperating partners to ensure distributions were carried

out before the end of the month.

- **South Kivu:** WFP reached **175,000 people** with food assistance, cash and malnutrition treatment and prevention commodities. The collapse of bridges and impassable roads during the rainy season made it impossible to start the distributions in time. WFP and its cooperating partners deployed teams to facilitate swift distributions.
- **School Feeding:** In April, WFP served nutritious meals to 98,000 primary school children in South Kivu, Tanganyika, Kasai Oriental and Kasai Central which is an increase from the last month. In Nyiragongo, WFP continued distributing take-home rations to school children in schools that were closed due to insecurity. Similarly, in the Kasai, children were also given take-home food rations before the Easter holidays. A total of 14 improved stoves have been installed in Tanganyika, two for each school.
- **Resilience:** WFP, FAO and UNICEF, are jointly implementing a multi-year resilience programme in seven provinces in DRC. WFP's work on smallholder agriculture market support and food assistance for assets (FFA) is **targeting over 450,000 people** in 2023. In April, WFP reached 145,000 people across Kinshasa, South Kivu and the Ubangis while distributions in North Kivu and Tanganyika were postponed due to constraints. Meanwhile, distributions in Kinshasa, South Kivu and Tanganyika are underway at the time of reporting.
- **Protection:** In April, WFP conducted protection analyses to understand and mitigate potential protection risks associated with its operations such as the flood response among others. WFP also focused on building the capacity of partners on issues of protection, accountability, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse as an integral part of establishing complaints and feedback mechanism committees. Internally, WFP worked to mainstream data protection for its beneficiaries through its digital platform for cash-based transfers – SCOPE. WFP is planning to strengthen the integration of conflict sensitivity into WFP operations, particularly through capacity-building activities and context analysis.

### Supply Chain

- **Procurement:** WFP continued to receive food commodities purchased locally and regionally.
- For regional procurement, delays in deliveries were experienced for cereals (rice) from Kenya due to fumigation requirements which impacted timely distribution in April. Meanwhile in the south, as roads start to dry up, tentative resumption of deliveries from Lubumbashi to the Kasais has recommenced. Nevertheless, given various constraints through this corridor, future usage of Lubumbashi as a primary corridor for the Kasais will be limited.
- WFP conducted a due diligence assessment of financial service providers to evaluate providers' capacity for the ongoing financial service provider tender process.

<sup>3</sup> At the time of reporting, WFP is revising its targets for the year as the escalation of conflict in the east has prompted scale-up of WFP operations.



## 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](#). It monitored and shared physical access alerts via: [drc-logs@logcluster.org](mailto:drc-logs@logcluster.org).



### Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- The updated 2023 geographical tool for targeting health zones is now available [here](#).
- A revision of the food insecurity levels was initiated in April in light of the escalation of conflict, displacement and the worrying degradation of food accessibility.
- The 2022 integrated food security phase classification projected that already-before the conflict intensified some 24.5 million people would be acutely food insecure and in need of urgent food assistance between January and June 2023.
- The latest integrated food security phase classification update analysis published in May 2023 shows that approximately 25.8 million people are projected to experience high levels of acute food insecurity classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or above between January and June 2023.
- The latest revised IPC figures estimate that 6.7 million people are in crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity in the three provinces (North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri). The conflict has caused a 10 percent rise in food insecurity since the projections for 2023 (up from 6.1 million).



### UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

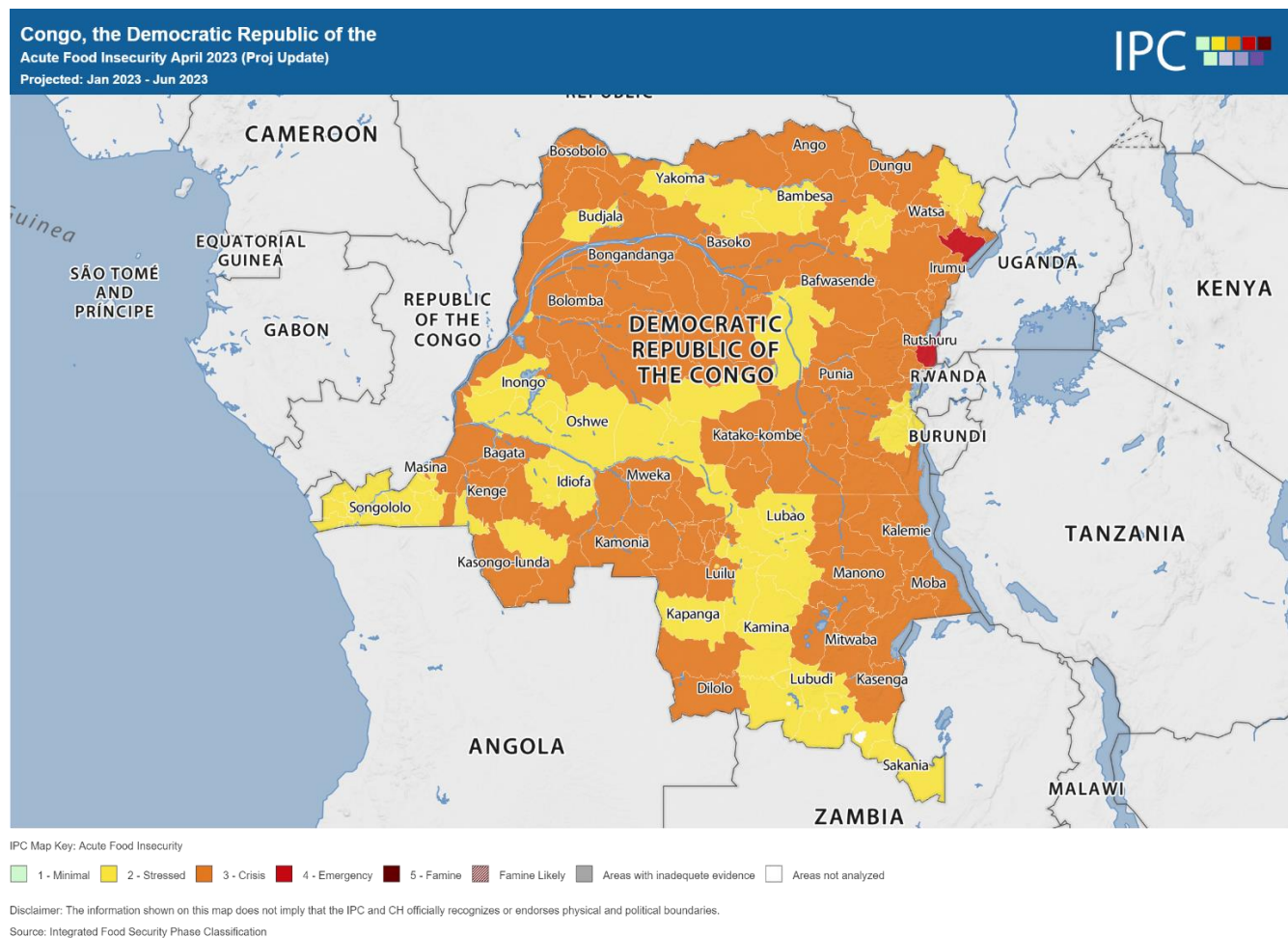
- **Operational Overview:** UNHAS regular and special flights and European Union Humanitarian Aid Flight (EUHAF) transported **2,811 passengers** and **47 mt** of essential light cargo.
- **Medical Evacuations:** UNHAS accomplished seven medical evacuations out of various locations including Kalole and Walikale among others.
- **Special Flights:** In addition to regular flights, UNHAS conducted special flights to serve a total of 116 organizations in April.



## Communications, Advocacy and Marketing

- WFP [announced](#) a contribution from the Government of Japan to WFP operations in the DRC.
- WFP organized a press briefing to launch the 2022 Annual Country Report for DRC with [local media](#). ACR products are [available here](#).
- WFP launched the newly painted orange UNHAS helicopters with a [press release](#), [social media](#), and media coverage ([here](#) and [here](#)).
- Community engagement efforts are currently ongoing in Ituri where information exchange sessions are being held with communities, civil society and local media on WFP activities including supply chain operations, nutrition interventions, targeting and WFP adherence to humanitarian principles.

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



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- For further information, visit the Democratic Republic of Congo page [here](#).

WFP thanks the following donors who contributed resources in 2023:

