



SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Democratic Republic of the Congo

Situation Report #49 – 31 July 2023

## Highlights

- Corporate scale-up underway with cash interventions prioritized:** After activation of a corporate scale-up as of 1 June 2023, WFP is prioritising cash assistance due to ongoing commodity shortages starting from July. WFP targets 3.6 million people as needing life-saving assistance in the next six months among 6.7 million people facing high levels of acute food insecurity in the three eastern provinces (North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri). In July, WFP targeted 1.1 million people with cash assistance (68 percent of the emergency response) whilst half a million people are targeted with remaining food stocks (32 percent) in camps, collective sites and host families, across Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu.
- Funding remains a challenge in sustaining and scaling up assistance:** The funding situation remains dire and poses a risk to sustain and scale up life-saving assistance. In order to provide food and cash assistance to up to 3.6 million people, mainly vulnerable women and young children, WFP urgently needs USD 557 million until the end of the year despite the recent USD 129 million contribution from USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Affairs (BHA) in the form of wheat.
- Security challenges are exacerbating an already difficult humanitarian situation:** Bottlenecks around customs and along supply routes are delaying the humanitarian response. The no-fly zone around areas controlled by the M23 and related risks in North Kivu prevent access by helicopters to affected populations outside of Goma. Security challenges have also impeded the affected population's access to assistance. There have been movement restrictions, including increased taxes on routes

	<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)

leading to farmland or markets. This means families sometimes resort to perilous coping mechanisms, frequently resulting in protection risks. Protection issues, such as gender-based violence (GBV), present additional challenges in the response efforts. Safeguarding women and girls as they collect firewood for cooking remains a significant concern.

## Situation Update

- Eastern DRC:** Across the three conflict-affected provinces in the east, instability and displacement continue to rise. In July, in Ituri, Cooperative for the Development of the Congo (CODECO) non-state armed group was active in two territories, and the Mai-Mai non-state armed groups clashed with the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) non-state armed group. The ADF also committed abductions in Beni, North Kivu. There were violent clashes between the March 23 Movement (M23) non-state armed group and a coalition of other non-state armed groups around Rutshuru, North Kivu, triggering mass displacement. Unidentified armed men also committed attacks in South Kivu.

<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 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 (June 2023)

- **Overview:** In June, WFP assisted **1.4 million unique beneficiaries across all activities (including School Feeding and Resilience)**. WFP reached 504,000 people with cash-based transfers (CBT), 464,000 with in-kind assistance, and 247,000 with malnutrition treatment and prevention supplies. While commodity shortages affected in-kind distributions, delays with the deployment of cooperating partners to conduct targeting and biometric (SCOPE) registrations and delays in contract review for the financial services provider prevented WFP to reach more people in need with cash distributions. Damaged roads as well as insecurity also hampered WFP and cooperating partners' ability to conduct distributions in some areas.
- **North Kivu:** WFP reached **332,000 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) and was transferred to Goma for distribution. WFP's nutrition interventions in Goma faced challenges due to severe access limitations to areas with armed group presence.
- **Ituri:** WFP assisted **306,000 people** with food assistance, cash and malnutrition treatment. WFP scaled up its in-kind assistance to people in IDP camps while security situation remained intense.
- **South Kivu:** WFP reached **109,000 people** with food assistance, cash and malnutrition treatment and prevention commodities. Distributions to people affected by the flooding in Kalehe continued in June. WFP's nutrition activities negatively affected by delays in deliveries in Bukavu.
- **Kasai:** WFP reached 80,000 people with in-kind assistance, cash and malnutrition treatment supplies. Cash was distributed to those impacted by flooding in Tshikapa.
- **Kasai Central:** WFP assisted **154,000 people** with in-kind and cash assistance and malnutrition treatment supplies. In-kind distributions were limited as the lean season wrapped up.
- **Tanganyika:** WFP supported **221,000 people** with in-kind food, cash, and malnutrition treatment and prevention supplies.
- **School Feeding:** In June, WFP served nutritious meals to 85,000 primary school children in North Kivu, South Kivu, Tanganyika and and Kasai Central.
- **Resilience:** In June, WFP pursued its resilience support to communities in the seven provinces where activities are jointly implemented with FAO and UNICEF. WFP reached 5,500 beneficiaries through programmes in Ubangis. WFP provided livelihood opportunities to the beneficiaries through food-for-assets and post-harvest loss management activities. The post-harvest loss management trainings

benefited also the agents of the local government. In order to strengthen Government capacity in resilience and food systems, WFP organized a workshop with the Ministry of Agriculture to assess the implementation of the expired memorandum of understanding (MoU) and to prepare a new one based on the Government's updated priorities.

- **Protection:** In June, a conflict sensitivity mission to Ituri revealed that the territories of Djugu, Mahagi and Irumu remain protection hotspots. Rapid protection risk assessments were conducted in the camps in and around Goma to inform the response. WFP continued to monitor beneficiary registration activities to address concerns in the field and support crowd management, site organisation and consideration for people with special needs.



### Supply Chain

- **Procurement:** WFP continued to procure food commodities locally and regionally. Regional procurement remains the most viable option for sourcing food commodities at the moment as local sources are unable to meet the requirements.
- 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](mailto:drc-logs@logcluster.org).



#### Food Security Cluster (FSC)


- The updated 2023 geographical tool for targeting health zones is now available [here](#).
- **WFP's scale-up plan 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 levels 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 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 26 July 2023, the plan is only funded at about 33 per cent and the number of people in need is on the rise. In 2022, the Humanitarian Response Plan was funded at 51 per cent, which allowed the humanitarian community to reach 5.8

million people out of the targeted 8.8 million people, leaving 3 million people with multiple needs without adequate support.

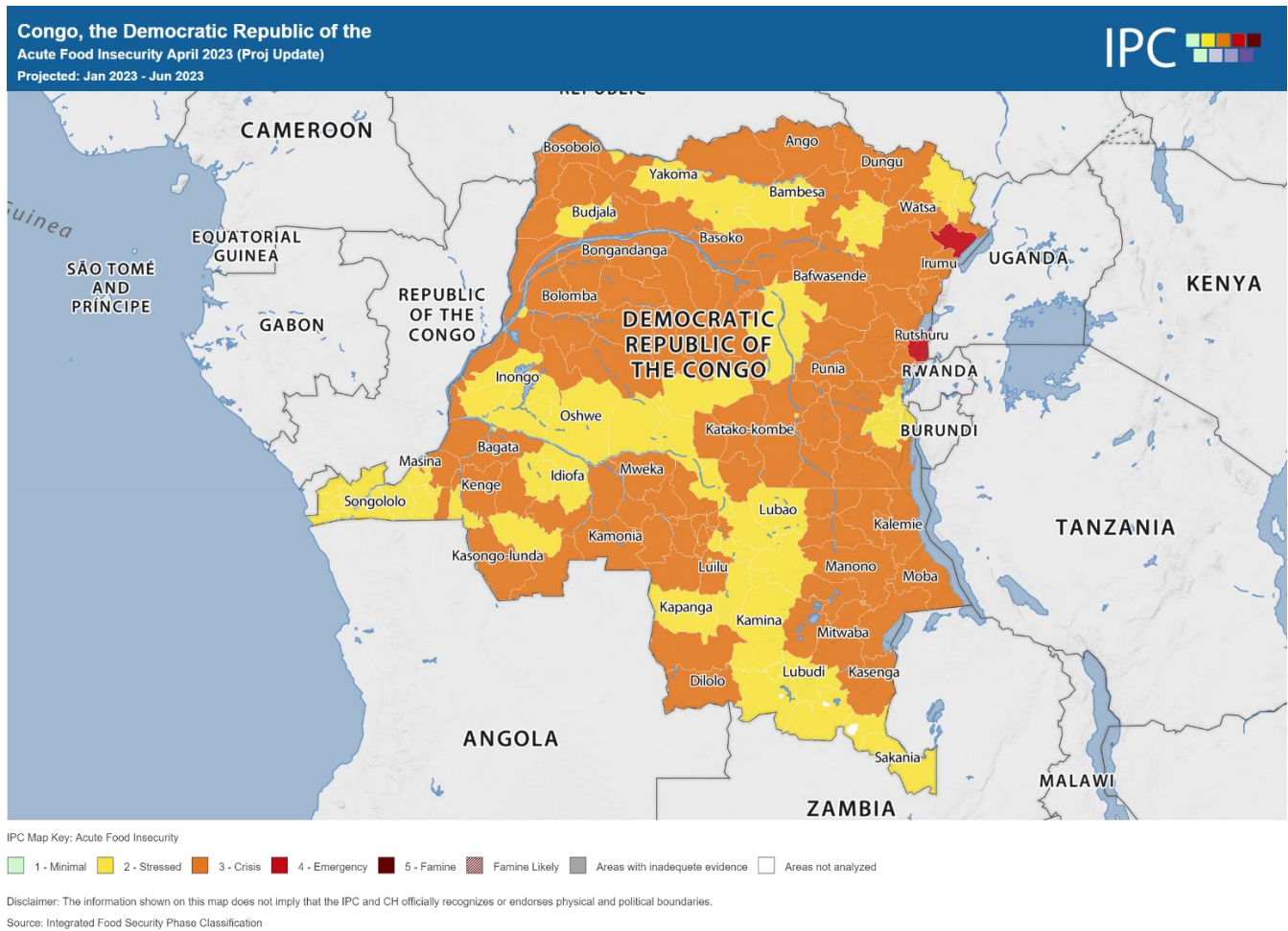
## UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- **Operational Overview:** In June, UNHAS regular and special flights transported **3,253 passengers** and **60 mt** of essential light cargo.
- **Medical Evacuations:** UNHAS accomplished 14 medical evacuations out of Walikale, Salamabila and Kalole.
- **Special Flights:** In addition to regular flights, UNHAS conducted eight special flights to serve a range of partners.
- **Rehabilitation in Bukavu:** The Bukavu runway was completely and partially closed to air traffic throughout June due to runway rehabilitation works. All operations are expected to resume on 3 August.
- **Fuel shortages:** Fuel shortages continued affecting UNHAS operations particularly in Kananga and this prompted disruptions to the regular flight schedule.
- **UNHAS Satisfaction Survey:** In June, UNHAS launched the Provision of Access Satisfaction Survey (PASS) and the Passenger Satisfaction Survey (PSS). These surveys showed an overall satisfaction of 95 percent.

### **Communications, Advocacy and Marketing**

-  On 6 and 7 July, WFP published articles on the [humanitarian crisis in the east](#) and on [nutrition education](#) on wfp.org.

## 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:**

