WFP Director of Emergencies in the middle shares a lighter moment with beneficiaries during her visit to Ituri and Rutshuru in eastern DRC. ©WFP/Benjamin Aguanda



SAVING LIVES CHANGING

WFP Democratic Republic of the Congo

July Situation Report #39 – 26 August 2022

Highlights.

- WFP Director of Emergencies mission: Between 20 and 21 July, WFP Director of Emergencies, Margot van der Velden, and WFP DRC Country Director, Peter Musoko, visited Ituri and North Kivu provinces. They met with internally displaced people's committees and co-operating partners, and discussed implementation challenges with local government authorities and other humanitarian actors under the coordination of OCHA. WFP emphasised its commitment in providing in-kind food assistance to the displaced, returnees and vulnerable host families.
- UNHAS Chief of Aviation mission: Philippe Martou visited Kinshasa and Goma from 17 to 27 July. Philippe met with traditional and non-traditional donors and presented UNHAS' financial situation. Philippe introduced WFP's plan to set up a centralised funding mechanism for UNHAS operations to complement the country office fundraising efforts.

Situation Update.

Anti-MONUSCO Protests: On 24 July, protesters invaded MONUSCO (Mission de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour la stabilisation en République démocratique du Congo) bases in Goma (Majengo and Kituku quarters) and Butembo, resulting in the death of four UN peacekeepers and at least thirty-six civilians. WFP put in place additional security measures in Goma, given the high risk that the protests could target UN agencies. WFP faced access constraints further limiting humanitarian response in areas such as Rutshuru and Nyiragongo. On 28 July, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) issued a statement asking Mathias Gillmann, the spokesman of MONUSCO, to leave the country. On 31 July, MONUSCO peacekeepers (Tanzanian) from Force Intervention Brigade (FIB) fired several gunshots to gain passage at the Kasindi border, killing two locals and injuring fifteen others. The DRC Government is reassessing MONUSCO's withdrawal plan and intends to accelerate its exit before 2024.

	25.9 m highly food-insecure people (51% female/49% male) (50% children/50% adults)	
9	26 provinces affected	
% →	5.7 m people displaced (52% female/48% male) (58% children/42% adults)	
ŤŤŤ	6.3 m people reached in 2021 (59% female/41% male) (61% children/39% adults)	
Total 2022 funding requirements		US\$ 645.4 m
6-month Net Funding Requirements (August – January 2023)		
Food Assistance		US\$ 59.4m
Nutrition		US\$ 24.2m
Other activities		US\$ 30.3m
Total		US\$ 113.9m

WFP Response

• Under the Country Strategic Plan 2021-2024, WFP continues its large-scale assistance targeting around **8.6 million** people with food and nutrition support in 2022.

Food and Nutrition Assistance

 Overview: Despite the increased insecurity experienced in July, WFP reached 875,000 people with in-kind distribution, cash-based assistance, and nutrition activities. WFP supported 589,000 individuals with in-kind distributions, and 125,000 people received cash assistance. WFP assisted 161,000 children and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW/Gs) with nutritious products to treat and prevent malnutrition. WFP signed new outline agreements (OA) with its financial service providers and adjusted contracting values which have led to the delay and low cash disbursement rate in provinces such as Tanganyika and South Kivu. WFP operations continue to be affected by the ongoing clashes between the Mai Mai, March 23 Movement (M23) and *Forces armées de la république démocratique du Congo* (FARDC) in the East and the heightened anti-MONUSCO protests.

- **Tanganyika:** WFP reached **124,000** beneficiaries with in-kind assistance and nutrition activities. WFP assisted **87,000** individuals with in-kind assistance, including **1,216** Congolese returnees who arrived in Pweto from camp Kantabala in Zambia. WFP supported **37,000** children and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW/Gs) with malnutrition prevention and treatment activities. WFP continues to face liquidity challenges because of the new corporate processes meant to increase cash-based assurances. The cooperating partner, Trust Merchant Bank is in the process of finalizing its outline agreement (OA) at the country office level. This has further impacted WFP's operational efficiency in reaching more beneficiaries with cash assistance. WFP is preparing a double cash-based transfer set to commence mid-August, targeting 51,000 people.
- Kasai Central and Kasai Oriental: WFP reached 101,000 beneficiaries with either cash, in-kind or nutrition assistance for prevention and treatment. Some 52,000 people received in-kind distributions, and an additional 49,000 children and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW/Gs) benefitted from malnutrition treatment and prevention activities. The delays in the adjustment of contracting values for financial service cooperating partners at headquarters and country office level have stalled the allocation of funds for cash-based assistance. The Kananga office is set to commence cashbased assistance once funds are released in early August. The fuel crisis in Kananga and Mbuji Mai affected UNHAS operations and delayed the distribution of commodities across all the distribution centres.
- Kasai: In July, 103,000 people benefitted from in-kind distribution and malnutrition activities. WFP supported 88,000 individuals with in-kind commodities. WFP reached 15,000 individuals with life-saving malnutrition treatment. WFP and ISP (*Inspection Provinciale de la Santé*) joint mission produced a report verifying the sale of nutritional inputs in the Mutena health zone, and legal authorities are conducting investigations. WFP trained CARITAS agents in implementing biometric registration for cash-based transfer activities set for mid-August.
- North Kivu: In July, WFP assisted 205,000 people, including displaced people and host families, with in-kind assistance and nutrition activities following the short-lived cease-fire between the FARDC and M23. WFP reached 198,000 people, including internally displaced persons, with in-kind assistance and 7,000 individuals with malnutrition treatment and prevention support. WFP continues to face security

constraints in executing nutrition activities in the Rwanguba health zone. Only 8 out of the 21 Health Areas are currently accessible to humanitarians.

- Ituri: Some 257,000 people received in-kind distribution, cash-based assistance, and nutrition prevention and treatment. In-kind assistance reached 114,000 people, including beneficiaries under emergency food activities. Some 125,000 people received cash assistance using biometric registration, further eliminating duplications. Additionally, WFP reached 18,000 people with malnutrition treatment and prevention activities. The repeated Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) attacks in the Boga-Tchabi area delayed the completion of WFP nutrition activities in Irumu territory. The Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) crisis added 315,000 new conflict-affected people to WFP's target response for August.
- South Kivu: In July, 80,000 people received in-kind assistance and nutrition treatment. WFP reached 47,000 people, including IDPs, returnees and host families, with in-kind assistance. Additionally, WFP reached 33,000 people with treatment and prevention of nutrition activities. WFP put onhold in-kind distribution and cash assistance in Bikoboko due to insecurity and will resume in mid-August, pending security improvement. WFP continues to face liquidity and mobility challenges resulting in the deferment of cash-based-transfer activities in areas such as Kalehe.

🛧 🏛 🔜 Supply Chain

- **Pipeline:** WFP transported **242** MT of maize meal to Bukavu after a delay in Uvira, benefitting approximately 3,200 families for one month on a complete ration.
- Food Quality and Safety: The LOU (Letter of Understanding) between OCC (*Office Congolais de Control de la Qualite*) and WFP is still under review at OCC. Feedback is expected by the end of September 2022.
- Field Mission: The Regional Office (RBJ) completed its mission to support the commodity accounting processes in DRC from 15 July to 03 August. WFP is planning to issue certification of recorded losses and launching a dashboard that displays various monitoring reports that include stock levels and expiry dates of commodities.

Clusters and Common Services Logistics Cluster

- **Gaps and Needs Analysis (GNA) report:** The GNA <u>report</u> is now available and will help the Logistics Cluster plan its strategy for DRC in the coming years.
- Information Management/Geographical Information

Systems: The Logistics Cluster shared documents and operational maps on the dedicated <u>portal</u>. The Logistics Cluster monitored and shared physical access alerts via dcr-logs@logcluster.org.

🍉 Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) Workshop: Nearly 200 analysts from across the country were trained with the IPC Global Support Unit from 25 to 29 July. The outcome report is expected to be shared in late August.
- Geographic targeting: WFP and OCHA received geographic targeting tools designed by the Food Security Cluster to support partners with multi-sectoral vulnerability targeting.

🛧 UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS Global User Group Meeting: The second quarterly UNHAS Global User Group Meeting took place on 6 July, online. The users requested UNHAS management to lobby the Steering Committee to reduce the current fares as they are now failing to implement and monitor activities.
- **Operational Overview**: In July, UNHAS and EU Humanitarian AirForce (EUHAF) transported 3,422 passengers and 47 MT of essential light cargo. On 30 and 31 July, UNHAS facilitated the repatriation of 105 Central African Republic refugees from Kinshasa, Brazzaville, Ouesso, and Ollombo.
- **Medical Evacuations**: UNHAS conducted nine evacuation flights out of Beni, Walikale, Bunia, Bukavu, and Goma.
- **Special Flights**: UNHAS conducted 6 special flights for *Comité International de la Croix-rouge* (CICR), UNHCR, and WFP.
- **Fuel Crisis**: Fuel shortages continue to hinder UNHAS operations, particularly in Mbandaka and Bangui, west of DRC. On 13 and 22 July, UNHAS transported fuel from Brazzaville to Ollombo, enabling connection to Gbadolite via Gemena.



Communications

- Banazola Foundation Tournament: The WFP nutrition and communications unit conducted <u>an interactive</u> <u>nutrition education awareness session</u> during the children's soccer tournament held in Lemba with <u>Dieumerci Mbokani</u> as a VIP guest.
- School Feeding trip: The Banazola Foundation conducted a <u>trip to the school feeding programmes</u> in Tanganyika. They visited a WFP nutrition programme and three local families. Additionally, the foundation staged an impromptu soccer match for local children and met with the provincial authorities.
- Outreach: WFP hosted an interactive career presentation at the Catholic University focusing on WFP operations, recruitment processes, the state of food security, and communications and advocacy opportunities in DRC.



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