



# WFP Democratic Republic of the Congo

## March Situation Report #35 – 8 April 2022

### Headline

- N'sele Phase Three Launch:** On 1 March, WFP Deputy Director (DCD), Natasha Nadazdin, UNICEF Director, FAO Director and the Belgian Minister Counsellor for International Cooperation and the DRC Minister of Social Affairs, Humanitarian Action and National Solidarity launched the third phase of the joint N'sele Social Protection project. The programme will build longer-term resilience to shocks through cash and mobile money payments to 4,000 households, basic services and livelihoods activities. It offers a sustainable and scalable model to strengthen the government's capacity to deliver social protection services elsewhere in DRC.

### Situation Update

- Country Director (CD) Mission to Namibia:** From 28 February to 4 March, CD Peter Musoko, visited Namibia with the DRC Minister of State for Rural Development and the Vice-Minister for Education to continue the momentum of the AUDA-NEPAD (African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa's Development) African Rural Development Forum in January. The delegation visited rural development projects, demonstrating private-public partnerships, home-grown school feeding, and sustainable agricultural models.
- Donors' mission to North Ubangi:** WFP took a delegation from Swedish, Norwegian and Belgian embassies to North Ubangi on 28 March to 1 April, accompanied by WFP and FAO's Deputy Country Directors (DCD), Resilience Coordinators and Partnerships Officers. The delegation visited resilience projects and Inke refugee camp.
- Uvira School Feeding Launch:** On 11 March, WFP DCD Moumini Ouedraogo launched the WFP-FAO-UNICEF school feeding programme in Sange, Uvira, with local authorities.
- National Government Partnerships:** On 17 March, CD Peter Musoko met with the DRC Vice Minister for Education to discuss expanding school feeding and strengthen WFP's partnership with the Government.

	<b>25.9 m highly food-insecure people</b> (51% female/49% male) (50% children/50% adults)
	<b>26 provinces affected</b>
	<b>5.7 m people displaced</b> (52% female/48% male) (58% children/42% adults)
	<b>6.3 m people reached in 2021</b> (59% female/41% male) (61% children/39% adults)
<b>Total 2022 funding requirements</b>	<b>US\$ 645.4 m</b>
<b>6-month Net Funding Requirements (April – September 2022)</b>	
Food Assistance	<b>US\$ 97.0 m</b>
Nutrition	<b>US\$ 9.3 m</b>
Other activities	<b>US\$ 17.7 m</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>US\$ 123.9 m</b>

- Humanitarian Community Partnerships:** On 8 March the CD met with the new Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (DSRSG), Bruno Georges Lemarquis, who replaces David McLachlan-Karr. On 15 March, the CD participated in the Groupe de coordination des partenaires (GCP) on humanitarian access, where he advocated strongly for partners to pledge support to UNHAS to reinstate full coverage.
- Women in Agriculture:** The CD attended a ceremony, co-hosted by First Lady Denise Tshisekedi and UNFPA on 31 March to celebrate women in agriculture.
- African Day of School Feeding:** On 1 March WFP visited a school in Tanganyika with the Provincial Education Minister, UNICEF and FAO.

### 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:** In March, WFP significantly accelerated its distributions thanks to local purchases of maize and pulses and the first arrivals of delayed commodities through Dar-Es-Salaam. A WFP mission to the port secured priority berthing for WFP commodities. WFP reached **1,043,536** beneficiaries with either cash-based transfers (CBT), in-kind, or nutrition assistance to prevent and treat malnutrition. In-kind assistance reached **407,516** individuals. WFP assisted **214,709** people with CBT and provided **421,311** children and pregnant and lactating women and girls with nutritious products.
- **Tanganyika:** In March, WFP's distributions advanced well, reaching **83,020** overall. Some **30,111** people were assisted through in-kind activities and **52,909** people received malnutrition treatment and prevention products. Though 37,300 were planned to receive mobile money cash transfers, the distribution was postponed to April to address beneficiary feedback after last month's distribution.
- **Kasai Central and Kasai Oriental:** WFP reached **163,623** people in March. Following the delays in the arrival of Maize Meal (MML) from previous months, 100 MT of food arrived in March and was distributed to **37,651** people. Some **25,361** beneficiaries received cash and **100,611** were reached with malnutrition prevention and treatment activities. WFP will continue to face shortfalls in MML in April as shipments continue to be delayed.
- **Kasai:** WFP assisted **219,483** beneficiaries in the Kasai in March. WFP distributed in-kind assistance to **43,416** beneficiaries, including many affected by conflict. Due to continued shortfalls arising from delayed international arrivals, food baskets lacked pulses and half a ration of cereals. Urgent supplies are needed for April. Some **97,063** people received cash and another **79,004** beneficiaries were reached with malnutrition treatments and preventions.
- **North Kivu:** Despite increasing violent clashes impacting operations, WFP reached **232,746** people in North Kivu in March and distributed High Energy biscuits to displaced vulnerable families. WFP provided in-kind assistance to **175,893** people, and cash to **23,885** people. Some **32,968** beneficiaries received malnutrition cures and treatments.
- **Ituri:** Despite rising insecurity, WFP reached **90,751** people in Ituri in March. Some **31,903** South Sudanese refugees received cash assistance in Meri and Biringi refugee camps. Cash distributions in Gethy and Rhoe internally displaced people's camps are postponed due to challenges with sorting SCOPE cards and unavailability of the required cash amounts with our partner Trust Merchant Bank. WFP did not plan in-

kind food distributions for this month due to shortages of cereals from international shipments but recorded reaching **5,173** people from February distributions continuing into March. Some **53,675** people benefitted from nutritional activities.

- **South Kivu:** WFP reached **253,913** people in March. Due to the arrival of pulses, Corn Soy Blend (CSB) and oil through the Dar-Es-Salaam Port, **115,272** people, including displaced people, returnees and host families in Fizi, Mwenga and Walunga received in-kind assistance. Cash distributions assisted **36,497** people, including internally displaced people in Bunyakiri. Additionally, **102,144** beneficiaries received products to treat and prevent malnutrition.



## Supply Chain

- **Pipeline:** WFP's pipeline has been severely affected by 3-4-month delays in the arrivals of commodities into DRC. WFP is anticipating shortfalls and seeking local options.
- **Corridors:** Congestion at Matadi Port has been resolved and deliveries of 10,390 MT of BHA cargo are progressing smoothly. Maersk and CMA CGM are engaged to deliver WFP cargo all the way to Kinshasa. A new contract with Bollore to transport commodities through Pointe Noire Port is in place and cargo has started to arrive. WFP are exploring Mombasa, Kenya, as an alternative corridor to supply eastern DRC as delays continue through the Dar-Es-Salaam corridor.



## Clusters and Common Services

### Logistics Cluster (LogCluster)

- **Funding:** LogCluster is suffering from low funding and requires support from the Global LogCluster Cell to implement a new strategy.
- **Information Management/Geographical Information Systems:** LogCluster shared documents through [the portal](#) and published [operational maps](#). LogCluster monitored and shared physical access alerts via [dcr-logs@logcluster.org](mailto:dcr-logs@logcluster.org).



### Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- **Integrated Phase Classification 20 Data:** On 3 March, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) discussed the differences between IPC figures and the FEWSNET phase classification, which is sponsored by the US American NGO Chemonics. FSC will present on the differences in analysis methods to the HCT.
- **Pre-positioning of stock:** NGO *Association Locale pour le Développement Intégral* (ALDI) has been granted USD 2 million following the HCT agreement to create contingency stock in November 2021. FSC is responsible for organising stock

distribution to partners in Ituri and North Kivu where insecurity poses challenges to deliveries. An FSC field mission met partners in Bunia and Beni to establish closer contact between WFP, LogCluster and ALDI on technical support, capacity building and sharing logistical experience. FSC prepared Strategic Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the project and established a steering committee. OCHA, INGOs and NGOs were sensitised on the project and its implications.

- **Humanitarian access:** FSC analysis with partners discussed solutions to the critical access situation in North Kivu and Ituri due to persistent armed conflict, including negotiating access with local authorities, using national NGOs, and advocating for resuming UNHAS flights.
- **Conflict sensitivity training:** FSC ran capacity-building sessions on conflict sensitivity and the Do No Harm principle in Bunia and Goma in March, considering the increased insecurity in the regions.

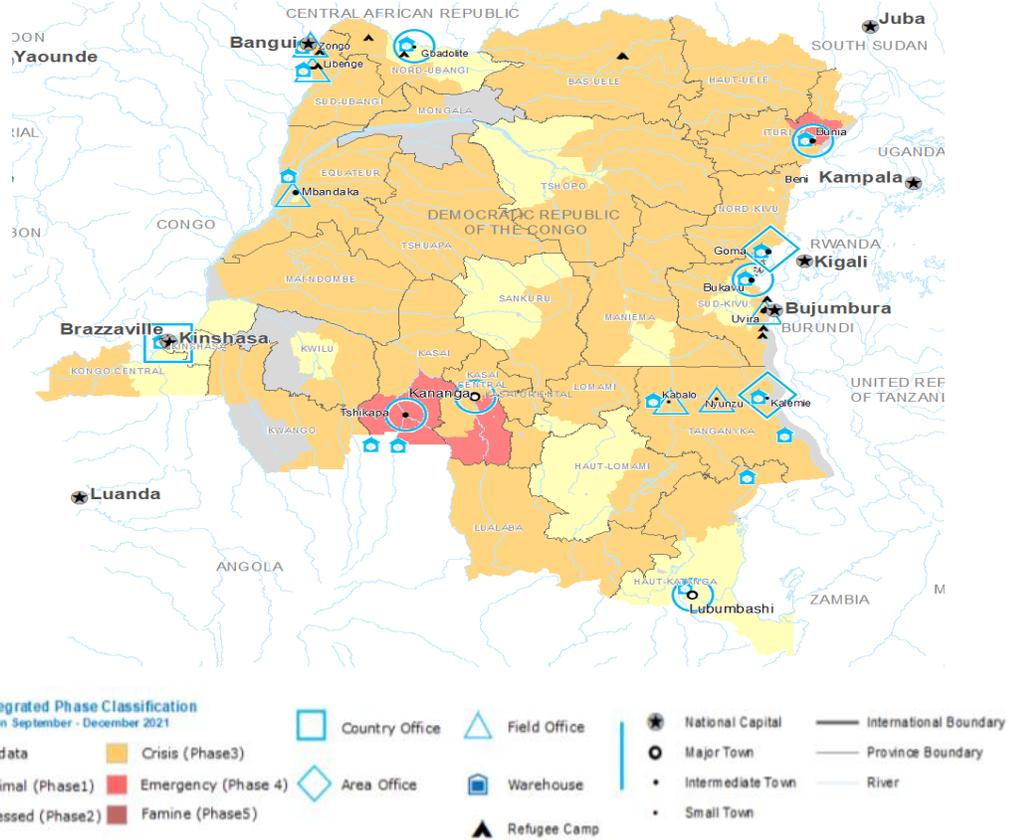
### **UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)**

- **User Group Consultation:** On 10 March the User Group discussed prioritising the Kinshasa-Kananga-Goma route for reinstatement which accesses the Kananga and the Kasais.
- **Regie des Voies Aeriennes (RVA):** UNHAS met with RVA in Walikale to discuss the US\$ 14 airport tax introduced since 14 March. UNHAS had submitted a letter in February reminding the authorities of the Government-approved exemption.
- **UNHAS Steering Committee:** On 29 March, the committee met to inform participants of the user feedback received since the fleet was downsized and routes were removed in February, to update on the financial situation and to obtain approval for a ticket fee increase. Congo Airways and the impact of the Russian/Ukraine conflict were also discussed.
- **Operational Overview:** In March, UNHAS and ECHO Flight project, managed by WFP/UNHAS, transported 4,685 passengers and 62 MT of essential light cargo.
- **Evacuations:** UNHAS conducted 7 medical evacuations out of Mbandaka, Roe, Djangi and Walikale.
- **Special Flights:** During the reporting period, UNHAS conducted seven special flights for VillageReach, UNFPA, UNICEF, OCHA, United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), IOM, *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ), *Médecins Sans Frontières* (MSF), Concern Worldwide, Medair and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). Additionally, 3 MT of measles and polio vaccines were transported in Tanganyika for VillageReach.

### **Communications**

- **International Women's Day:** WFP sponsored a Fun Run organised by Congo River Marathon on 6 March. Women staff participated, including DCD Natasha Nadazdin. The event was covered by media ranging from B-One TV to *Femme d'Afrique* magazine. Staff photos were taken on 8 and 9 March for International Women's Day. WFP displayed banners in Kinshasa advocating for women's empowerment.
- **International Day of School Feeding:** On 11 March, Radio Okapi and *Le Messager du Peuple* covered the launch. WFP displayed banners in Kinshasa advocating for school feeding and [tweeted](#).
- **Football:** To capitalise on the World Cup qualifiers, WFP ran nutrition messaging about the importance of a balanced diet featuring football player Distel Zola on [social media](#).
- **WFP interview:** DCD Moumini Ouedraogo gave an interview to Belgian TV News on food security in DRC and the wider region, and on the possible impact of the conflict in Ukraine.

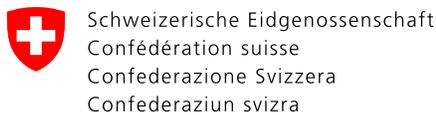




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