



# WFP D. R. Congo

## External Situation Report #26

8 July 2021

### In Numbers

- 27.3 m** highly food-insecure people
- 26** provinces affected
- 5.2 m** people displaced
- 2.7 m** beneficiaries reached since the beginning of 2021

### Highlights in June 2021

- **Volcano Nyiragongo’s response:** WFP’s operation phase 1 has been successfully completed on 9 June. Within 10 days, WFP reached **146,000 displaced persons**. The second phase of assistance is underway.
- **Record of people reached in a month:** in June, WFP reached some **1,048,000 beneficiaries with either in-kind, cash, or nutrition assistance**. This represents the highest monthly achievement so far in 2021.

#### Total funding requirements in 2021

**USD 662.5 m**

#### WFP 6-months Net Funding Requirements (July – December 2021)

Food Assistance	<b>USD 121.3 m</b>
Nutrition	<b>USD 8.4 m</b>
Other activities	<b>USD 22.8 m</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>USD 152.5 m</b>

### Situation Update

- **Volcano Nyiragongo’s response:** WFP’s response operation phase 1, aimed at assisting the displaced persons because of Nyiragongo’s volcano eruption, has been successfully completed on 9 June. Within 10 days, WFP reached a total of **146,000 displaced persons**, including unaccompanied children, with in-kind food aid. WFP and cooperating partner World Vision International assisted **39,700** beneficiaries in **Sake**, **52,700** in **Minova**, **40,000** in **Rutshuru**, and **13,200** in **Kalehe**.
- After the initial food assistance, a second phase is underway. WFP plans to support critically vulnerable households returning to Goma that have lost their homes, people facing food insecurity due to a loss of livelihoods, and vulnerable people in continued displacement in nearby areas. WFP continues to closely monitor

- UNHCR / IOM established transit sites in Goma. These are intended to support **3,500 families** who lost their homes to safely return to Goma.
- WFP is collaborating with FAO to assess and re-evaluate food insecurity in areas that have received IDPs, especially those areas where WFP already has **resilience projects** ongoing, such as Nyiragongo. WFP will use this re-evaluation to ensure that the resilience inputs from these communities are appropriately leveraged and increased to support the steep rise in needs.
- WFP is also conducting a **Multi-sector Needs Assessment (MSA)** to ascertain the number of people facing severe food insecurity, assess the severity of needs, and determine appropriate and effective modalities of response. Ensuing displacement and disruption of livelihoods, acute food needs among already vulnerable communities in affected areas are projected to have steeply risen. Chronic food insecurity was already prevalent in the affected areas, with an estimated **232,000 people** reported to be food insecure in 2020 (Nyiragongo: 120,000; Sake: 40,000; Rutshuru: 72,000). As observed by WFP teams, this number may have significantly increased, with the severity expected to further deteriorate with seasonal food shortfalls towards the upcoming harvest season.
- **Explosions in Beni:** on 26 and 27 June, three Improvised Explosive Devices reportedly exploded in different parts of Beni’s city centre as well as a church, leading to several fatalities including the culprit. Authorities announced a temporary closure of schools and markets, the ban of gatherings, and curfew between 18:00 and 5:30. At the end of the reported period, insecurity continued to affect WFP’s assistance in the region.
- Meanwhile, in **Irumu**, alleged ADF attacks continue to occur, especially in the Boga health zone. Since 30 May, at least five attacks have

been reported, resulting in at least 100 individuals killed and dozens abducted (including IDPs in Tchabi). Insecurity in this area remains high, with several INGOs withdrawing from the field. WFP's assistance has been affected by recurrent humanitarian access challenges; since July 2020, WFP has reached over **200,000 people** in Irumu with either in-kind or specialized nutrition aid.

- **COVID-19 pandemic:** DRC's situation continues to worsen since the Ministry of Health announced a third wave of COVID-19 on 3 June. The number of active cases jumped from 2,000 to 10,000 from 14 to 20 June. As of 27 June, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in DRC was **40,439** and **916** deaths. The main province affected was Kinshasa with **29,453** positive cases. **51,427** people had been vaccinated as of 27 June.

## WFP Response

- Under the Country Strategic Plan 2021-2024, WFP continues with its large-scale assistance, targeting **8.7 million people** with food and nutrition assistance throughout 2021.



### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **Overview:** in June, WFP reached some **1,048,000 beneficiaries with either in-kind, cash, or nutrition assistance**. This represents the highest monthly achievement so far in 2021, **15,000 more than the 1,033,000 people assisted in May 2021**. This figure does not include the volcano Nyiragongo beneficiaries, which are counted separately since they were not previously part of WFP's implementation plan.
- **Tanganyika:** WFP reached **51,000** beneficiaries with cash assistance in June. Despite the logistical challenges, nutrition and general food distributions combined reached over **203,000** people in June.
- **Kasai central and Kasai oriental:** the WFP office in Kananga reached **52,000** beneficiaries in June with cash assistance. In June, **38,000 people received in-kind food aid**. These included a carry forward of some delayed distributions from May caused by transportation issues. **13,000 children and mothers received Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) prevention and treatment aid**.
- **Kasai:** in June, WFP assisted **56,000 vulnerable people assisted with in-kind** food assistance. Cash distributions in Kamonia for the fourth and final cycle started on 28 June following a review that led to stricter barrier measures on COVID-19. The Tshikapa office has been temporarily closed due to the identification of a high number of positive cases among staff members.
- **Ituri:** the Bunia office completed general food distributions on 27 June, reaching **110,000 people**. Meanwhile, cash distributions reached **61,000 IDPs and refugees** with two months' assistance. At the end of the reported period, cash distributions were ongoing at Biringi refugee

camp. WFP had its first experience with Mobile Money Transfers in Ituri, with successful results.

- **North Kivu:** in June, WFP reached an estimated **121,000 people** through general food distributions. Another **123,000 beneficiaries received cash assistance**, while **29,000 children and mothers** received nutrition aid for MAM prevention and treatment. In Masisi, raising fears of confrontation have prevented WFP from providing in-kind food assistance in the area. Consequently, **10,500 displaced**, including vulnerable food insecure families, could not be assisted in Nyabiondo during the month of June.
- **South Kivu:** WFP reached **71,000 children** aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women in June with treatment of MAM activities. Meanwhile, WFP assisted **58,000** people with **in-kind food distributions** in the same month.
- **N'sele project:** on 28 June, WFP – FAO – UNICEF conducted a joint donor mission to the N'sele project. Participants included the Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Germany, the UK, and the World Bank. The mission visited three different places in both rural and urban communities. Participants had the chance to interact with beneficiaries who shared their stories on the importance of cash assistance and how they managed to set up small businesses. Links were made to the second and third phase of the project as well by visiting a farm and building on possible future resilience projects that could take place.

### Resilience and School feeding

- In June, **the Joint Programme Excellence and Targeting Hub facilitated a WFP, UNHCR, FAO technical livelihoods and resilience mission in DRC**. It aimed at operationalizing interagency commitments in the ongoing Resilience Programmes, funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA); and supporting a coordinated resilience response to the new refugee influx, including programmatic details and coordination mechanisms.
- The mission focused on enhancing partnership at field level, involving UN partners and other stakeholders like the Territorial Administration and NGOs in resilience and livelihoods activities. Refugees and host communities have also been consulted to ensure their inclusion in the participatory planning of the livelihoods and resilience activities in the Ubangi Provinces.
- Since 2020, the Joint UNHCR-WFP Programme Excellence and Targeting Hub has been supporting WFP and UNHCR Country Offices to develop a common understanding of the food and socio-economic needs of the Burundian, Central African Republic and South Sudanese refugee populations in DRC to target assistance, and jointly support refugee self-reliance based on strong community engagement in livelihoods' planning and implementation and assistance programming.

- Between 22 and 24 June, WFP's Country Director and its school feeding specialists attended the **DRC's school feeding workshop**. Organized by the Education Minister, the event had representatives from the Health Ministry and high-level officials from the Education Ministry Administration. In the event, participants revised the SABER workplan, discussing topics such as: DRC's National Strategy Preparation; the Law that will define its implementation structure and coordination body, and the inclusion of school feeding in schools' management units. Participants assigned working groups to refine a national school feeding situational analysis that will inform a 3-year plan.

### Supply Chain

- **New logistics hub: WFP is setting up a new logistics hub in Mahagi, on the Ugandan border near Bunia.** With a capacity of 1,400 MT, it aims to improve timely delivery of in-kind food commodities to beneficiaries in Djugu, Mahagi, and Faradje. Supplying via Bunia has been challenging due to access constraints.
- **New supply corridor inaugurated:** WFP's new supply corridor via Pointe Noire corridor is now officially operational. In June, the port in Kinshasa received the first containers of oil and Maize Meal, which were immediately re-dispatched to Tshikapa and Kananga.
- **Food quality incident: WFP has reached an agreement with supplier Agro Business to replace a batch of 795 MT of Maize Meal,** which had been put on hold as the taste is different from the one beneficiaries are used to. Nevertheless, WFP emphasizes that tests conducted by the Office Congolais de Control (OCC), mandatory superintendent in DRC, confirmed the food's satisfactory quality.

### Communications

- **New article published on WFP's website:** CO published a story on "[How DRC's Nyiragongo volcano displaced thousands](#)". The story, written by one of WFP's staff deployed to support the Nyiragongo volcano response and subsequent Goma crisis, showcases WFP's response.
- **New video published on WFP's Youtube channel:** WFP DRC produced a [video](#) showcasing one of its literacy training resilience projects implement in Eastern DRC.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- **DRC is currently the world's largest hunger crisis.** An upward trend in the number of people who face severe acute food insecurity (IPC Crisis Phase 3 and IPC Emergency Phase 4) has been observed since 2016. While in 2017 7.7 million people in DRC were food insecure,

the number has reached 27.3 million people in 2021 according to the 19<sup>th</sup> IPC. As food insecurity continues to grow drastically, the FSC must adjust its capacity to meet this extraordinary need for a coordinated response. To do it, the FSC will in the next months:

- Undertake a global and national advocacy to better communicate DRC's dire food security situation and mobilize a coalition of influential stakeholders to support communication, advocacy, and resource mobilization efforts;
- Conduct IPC 20 Process, which is critical for the humanitarian planning cycle;
- Provide leadership to ensure that the food security situation is well captured in the Humanitarian planning Cycle with HNO, then HRP;
- Contribute to and influence on CERF's and DRC Humanitarian fund's 2021 funding allocation;
- Support the resource mobilization efforts and technically contribute to the second Chronic IPC study in DRC (co-led by the World Bank, FAO, and WFP), and
- Engage in a large conversation with donors and food security stakeholders on new orientations and guideline on rations' size based on IPC data.



### Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster produces regular information management products, aiming to provide the humanitarian community with timely and accurate information to support operational decision-making. The latest products, including maps, advocacies and alerts on physical access constraints and air routes can be viewed [here](#).



### Bilateral Services Provision (BSP)

- WFP BSP has signed **28 Service Level Agreements** in 2021 thus far with various partners (UN Agencies, NGOs, and Cooperation Agencies). This is a significant increase of signed agreements compared to last year (21). This growth reflects the critical role BSP continues to play as a Supply Chain & Logistics partner in enabling the delivery of services.
- Throughout June, **WFP Service Provision has continued to build its capacity in Temperature Sensitive Logistics (TSL)** to meet the rising demand for this service with the COVID-19 pandemic. BSP remains able to cover such demands if and when partners request.



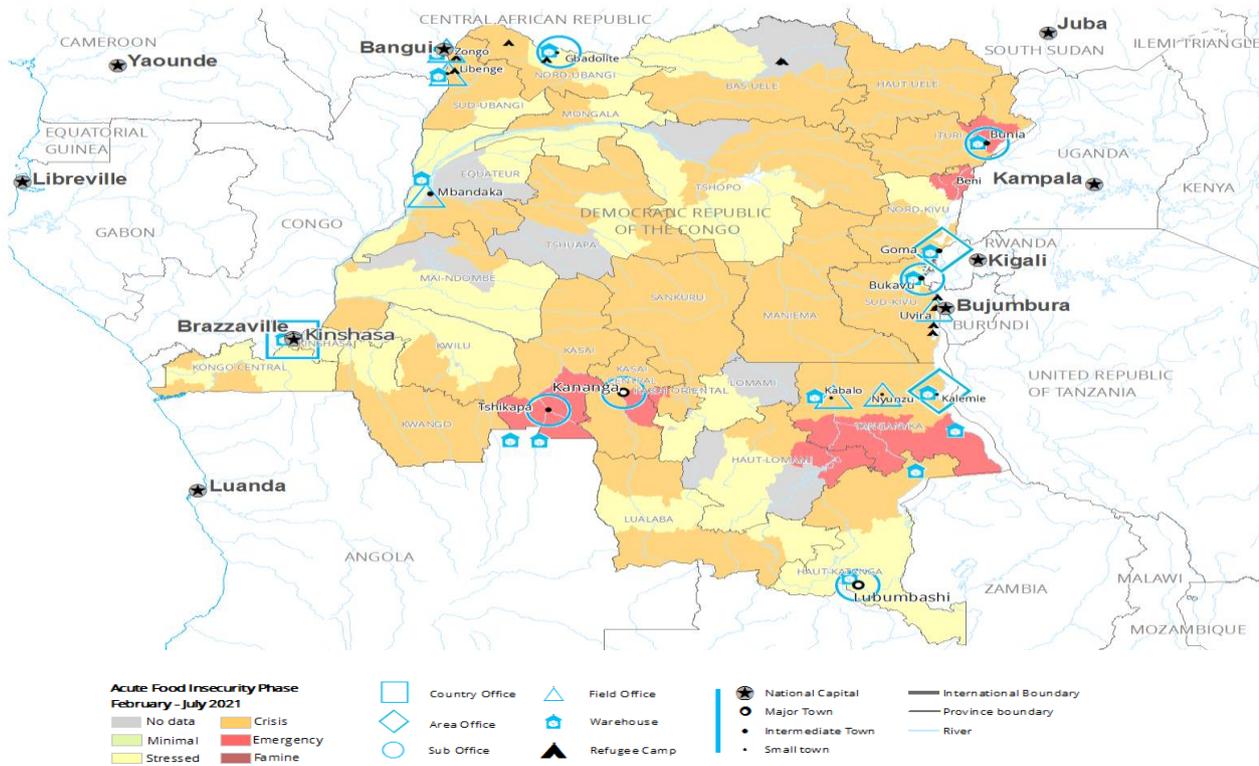
### UN Humanitarian Air Service

- **Regular and special flights:** during the month of June, **3,776** passengers and **79.45** tons of essential light cargo were transported through

UNHAS DRC and ECHO Flight project, managed by WFP/UNHAS. UNHAS DRC also performed 9 medical evacuations on behalf of 5 organizations, including 4 COVID-19 positive cases.

- **Security evacuations:** due to the unstable security situation in the *Hauts Plateaux* region in mid-June, UNHAS performed security evacuations for 55 NGO staff from Minembwe and Mikenge.
- **Nyiragongo volcano response:** the temporary

closure of Goma airport, which lasted until 8 June, obliged UNHAS DRC to adapt its flight schedule and routes temporarily. It included obtaining a special government authorisation to fly between Bunia and Entebbe, enabling the humanitarian actors to exit and enter DRC from the East. Since 9 June, all flights have been resumed normally.



Special thanks to our donors in 2020 - 2021 (listed alphabetically)



**Contacts**

- Peter MUSOKO, Country Director: [peter.musoko@wfp.org](mailto:peter.musoko@wfp.org)
- Leonardo DASILVEIRA, Operational IM & Reports Officer: [leonardo.dasilveira@wfp.org](mailto:leonardo.dasilveira@wfp.org)
- For further information, visit the D.R. Congo page [here](#).