



World Food Programme

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## WFP

### Democratic Republic of Congo Emergency Situation Report #9

31 October 2018

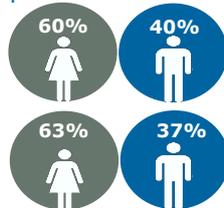
## Highlights

- The second Ebola outbreak of the year was declared on 01 August. As of 30 October, it has claimed 179 lives in North Kivu and Ituri provinces. Since the beginning of the outbreak, WFP has provided food assistance to 46,325 Ebola affected people and supported the overall response with critical logistics, aviation and information and communications technology.
- WFP's operational scale-up in 6 conflict-affected provinces is on track. From January to September, WFP reached 3.7 million people, 68 percent of the 5.4 million targeted for food and nutrition assistance in 2018. WFP plans to reach an additional 1.7 million people by the end of the year.
- The Government of DRC plans to close camps for internally displaced people (IDPs) in Tanganyika. WFP is preparing to assist the dislodged IDPs with food assistance and livelihood opportunities.

### People assisted Emergency Response

August: 920,868

September: 953,045



### People assisted Ebola Response

46,325 by end-October

## Situation Update

- **Ebola:** On 01 August, the Ministry of Health declared an Ebola outbreak in North Kivu, the tenth such outbreak in DRC. The virus subsequently spread to Ituri. As of 30 October, a total of 279 Ebola cases (of which 244 were confirmed), and 179 deaths (144 confirmed) were reported in seven health zones in North Kivu and two health zones in Ituri.
- North Kivu and Ituri continue to be affected by insecurity. In Ebola affected areas, militant activity along key transport routes and sporadic clashes with MONUSCO and government forces hamper the effectiveness of the humanitarian response against Ebola. The lack of basic infrastructure also inhibits the ability of aid workers to contain the outbreak. Heavy rains exacerbate poor road conditions and make transportation of goods and people unpredictable and difficult. Community resistance to "contact tracing", vaccinations and medical care continue to restrict access to affected people and increase the risk of a further spread of Ebola.

### Eastern provinces:

- In North Kivu, on 22 September, an attack by the Allied Democratic Forces–National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (ADF-NALU) in the city of Beni killed more than 20 civilians. Following the attack, humanitarian organizations, including WFP, temporarily suspended their activities and city officials declared a period of mourning.
- In South Kivu, clashes between the Yakutumba armed group and the DRC army continued in August and September in Fizi and Kabambare territories. This led to the displacement of more than 40,000 people and halted humanitarian activities in the area. In September, 100,000 intended recipients were deprived of food assistance as WFP was unable to access the area due to the armed conflict. In light of the security concerns in South Kivu, WFP is considering alternative distribution modalities, such as mobile money.
- In Tanganyika, from 18 to 21 September, WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF and OCHA visited Kalemie to take stock of the government IDP camp closure process and its impact on humanitarian interventions. Kalemie IDP sites are to be closed by end-December. WFP plans to include expelled IDPs in food distributions wherever possible. Following the camp closures, WFP also plans to assist dislodged IDPs with livelihood recovery.

### Kasai Central:

- In Kasai Central, humanitarian assistance was disrupted in September along the Kamwandu-Tshimbulu axis, due to armed conflict.

## WFP Response

- WFP is in the midst of a significant expansion of its operations in the most food insecure areas of DRC: the Kasais, the Kivus, Ituri and Tanganyika provinces. It aims to reach 5.4 million people by the end of 2018. The scale-up plan is currently on track. From January to September, WFP reached 3.7 million people, 68 percent of the 5.4 million targeted for food and nutrition assistance this year. WFP needs to reach an additional 1.7 million people by the end of the year.
- While significant efforts thus far have been made possible by the generous support from resource partners, the successful scale-up of operations depends on adequate funding, the availability and timeliness of commodities, and WFP's access to people in need. Due to insufficient resources, recipients of WFP food assistance continue to receive half-rations, which is just enough to stay alive. In September, three of WFP's priority provinces faced access constraints: Tanganyika, South Kivu and Kasai. This hampered complete delivery according to the scale-up plan. WFP seeks to address these road access constraints by progressively balancing food distributions with cash-based assistance, and airlifting nutritious products. In the three other targeted provinces - Ituri, North Kivu and Kasai Central - WFP delivered 100 percent against its scale-up target.
- The risk of Ebola spreading to neighbouring countries is high. Countries that are at risk of an Ebola outbreak are Uganda, Burundi, South Sudan and Rwanda. WFP, in coordination with WHO and other partners, is setting up a regional logistics staging area in Entebbe, Uganda. The staging area will contain storage units and prepositioned response items.



### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **Ebola:** WFP provides food to patients, caregivers, Ebola survivors and "contacts" in order to limit population movements in affected areas. By end-October, WFP had provided food and nutrition assistance to 46,325 people affected by Ebola; 518 mt had been distributed.
- WFP also airlifted high-energy biscuits from Dubai to Beni and Goma to strengthen the response to very ill patients.
- Intended recipients are given a fortnightly supply of cereals, beans, vegetable oil and salt, as well as nutrition products.
- Thanks to its logistics expertise, WFP has played an active role in enabling the medical response led by the Ministry of Health and WHO. WFP's logistical support mainly consists of stock and light vehicle management, the setting up of camps for health workers, and helping to increase storage, and road and air transport capacity. In addition, WFP's air services via UNHAS have been

critical for the movement of humanitarian workers and response items.

### Eastern provinces:

- In North Kivu, in August WFP assisted 79,158 people with food, 74 percent of the number planned for the month. In September, WFP exceeded its in-kind distribution target of 106,000 people by 11 percent.
- In South Kivu, WFP reached 125,598 people in August, 70 percent of its monthly target of the 180,000 for in-kind distributions. In September, 17,115 children and pregnant and breastfeeding women, or 62 percent of the monthly target, received treatment for malnutrition. These activities, however, were interrupted by armed attacks in Fizi and Kabambare territories.
- In Ituri, WFP distributed food to 49,500 IDPs at four sites in August. It also distributed cash to 37,360 South Sudanese refugees. In September, food distributions increased considerably with WFP fully reaching 100 percent of its monthly target of 135,684 people. Malnutrition treatment activities increased significantly from August to September, with 61 percent of the target of 6,862 people reached in September.
- In Tanganyika, WFP reached 116,200 people in August, 83 percent of the number planned for the month. In September, WFP increased food distributions, reaching 133,386 people, 89 percent of the planned number. WFP's nutrition activities were disrupted as some commodities were still in transit, and only due to arrive in November.

### Kasai, Kasai Central:

- In Kasai Central, access constraints affected the timeliness of food distributions in August. Still, 60,340 people, just over 100 percent of the scale-up plan target, were reached. For September, the monthly target of 60,000 recipients of food assistance was also fully met. Nutrition activities in August and September were impacted by a lack of commodities in stock. Most of the funds for nutrition activities recently became available so the commodities procured will only become available for distribution in November.
- In Kasai, in August, WFP reached 100 percent of its scale-up target for in-kind distributions: 81,000 people. However, the unavailability of oil and salt meant a food basket consisting of only cereals and beans. In September, food reached 135,610 people, 75 percent of the target for the month. But distributions were disrupted by poor road conditions, exacerbated by the rainy season. For nutrition activities, WFP reached 79 percent of the number intended for treatment of acute malnutrition. In September, this increased to 86 percent of the scale-up plan target.



## Supply Chain

- In response to the Ebola outbreak, a storage facility was set up in Beni for WFP food assistance and other humanitarian needs. In addition, two aircraft were loaded with 20 mt of high-energy biscuits and two prefabricated units from Dubai and Nairobi.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Food Security Cluster

- WFP has published the results of the latest crop assessment conducted in partnership with FAO, the Ministry of Agriculture and the DRC Cellule d'Analyses des Indicateurs de Développement (CAID). These show that DRC has a 22 percent deficit in food production. The deficit places more than 20 million people at risk of hunger. To reduce it, support for smallholder farmers is required to increase output, including of maize and beans. Increased regional trade would improve access to food.



### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster

- The cluster assisted WHO with repeater programming for Beni and Mangina in Ebola affected North Kivu province, and the installation of repeaters in Mangina.
- As part of WFP's operational scale-up, the ETC deployed upgrades to the emergency communications system and trained radio operators at communication centres.



### Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster provided coordination and information management support to the Ebola Logistics Commission, a technical body assisting in the coordination of the Ebola response. The cluster assisted in the capacity building of the Commission and facilitated the transmission of information between Kinshasa and Beni and through the cluster's communication platforms.
- In response to the Ebola crisis in North Kivu and Ituri, a dedicated section for Ebola response logistics maps has been created on the DRC Logistics Cluster website, available [here](#).



### UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- In response to the Ebola crisis, UNHAS is providing enhanced air transport services for light cargo and passengers from Goma to Beni and Bunia, using two fixed-wing aircraft and a helicopter.

- UNHAS has an additional helicopter dedicated to supporting the Ebola response in North Kivu and Ituri. It is based in Goma and serves Beni daily with as many rotations as needed from Monday to Friday, with an extra flight on Saturday or Sunday as required.
- In support of the Ebola response, in August and September UNHAS transported 1,613 passengers and 29.7 mt of cargo, including vaccines, laboratories, blood samples and blood bags.

## Communication

- On 14 September, WFP supported the launch of the #ILoveCongo campaign in Kinshasa, which received significant uptake on social media. The #ILoveCongo movement seeks to raise awareness of the humanitarian situation in DRC. The campaign is one of hope, emphasising the solidarity and resourcefulness of the Congolese people. The Congolese singer, Mohombi, the campaign founder, took the campaign global, and participated in a WFP-hosted Facebook Live event in New York on 24 September. This event, with the hashtag #ILoveCongo, garnered significant engagement on social media, including the official UN Twitter account, which has 10 million followers.

## Resourcing Update

- WFP requires an additional USD 131.6 million for the next six months (to end-April 2019). Due to this funding gap, WFP is unable to reach all intended recipients with food and nutrition assistance. In greater Kasai alone, 160,000 children and mothers are waiting for malnutrition treatment, yet they cannot be assisted due to the lack of funds. WFP's Ebola response is significantly underfunded with only USD 400,000 resourced out of a total requirement of USD 8.9 million. As the response to the epidemic must not be delayed, additional contributions are urgently needed.
- The top five donors for WFP operations are the USA, the UK, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Canada and Germany.

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