



WFP

Democratic Republic of Congo

Emergency Situation Report #3

18 December 2017

In numbers

13.1 m people in need of assistance

1.9 m severely malnourished children

762,000 IDPs in Kasai

2.2 m IDPs in the Kivus and Tanganyika

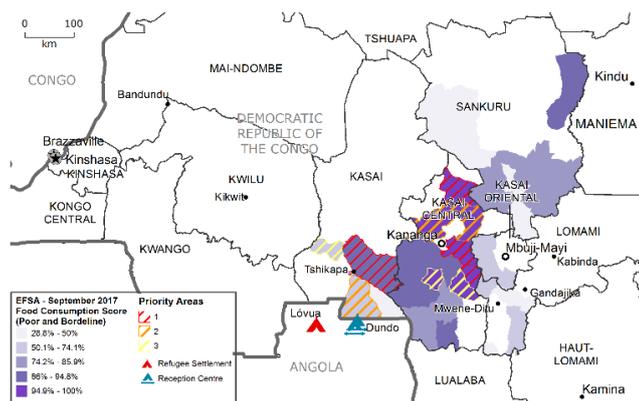
USD 80 m: WFP's unmet funding needs for Kasai for next 6 months (Dec '17-May '18)

USD 34 m: unmet funding needs for other DRC food operations for next 6 months

Highlights

- WFP and its partners have continued scaling up food assistance in Kasai, doubling the number of people given General Food Distribution (GFD) rations in both October and November (to 115,000 and 225,000, respectively).
- Limited resources have obliged WFP to halve GFD rations in Kasai for November and December, and likely for January too.
- At a 28 November meeting in Brussels, IASC Emergency Directors and donor representatives agreed that food insecurity is among the top drivers of humanitarian need in DRC.

Kasai Region



Situation Update

- **Kasai Region:** About half of the 1.4 million people displaced by the violent conflict that erupted in mid-2016 have returned home, typically to precarious circumstances. The pace of returns may slow unless security improves.
- While the conflict has eased, inter-ethnic tensions persist and localized clashes between the Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC) and militia groups continue.
- Access and logistical constraints have intensified during the rainy season, causing significant road transport delays.
- **The Kivus:** The number of IDPs approaches 1.6 million, as the security situation remains volatile. Insecurity has prompted some INGOs to stop work in North Kivu. The situation may deteriorate in December, as militia attacks tend to increase during that month. A recent assessment revealed a worsening of the nutrition situation in Birambizo

health zone in Rutshuru territory, with the GAM rate exceeding 13 percent. In South Kivu, IDPs continued to be registered and a new site was opened for Burundian refugees in Mulongwe, Fizi territory.

- **Tanganyika:** Insecurity worsened, with staff from four INGOs attacked and robbed by militiamen in November on the Nyunzu-Kalemie road. As a result, a GFD intervention planned for Kyoko, in Kalemie territory, where 26,000 IDPs have been identified for support, was suspended. Access constraints and lack of funding continued to hamper humanitarian assistance in the province.
- **CAR Refugees:** Intensified fighting in CAR since April has pushed tens of thousands more people into North Ubangi and Bas Uele provinces. Most are in remote and difficult-to-access areas along the Ubangi River. They are targeted for support through a regional Emergency Operation (EMOP).

WFP Response

- **Kasai Region:** WFP continued scaling up under EMOP 201092, with limited donor contributions forcing a heavy reliance on rapidly diminishing internal funds. As things stand, half GFD rations will continue through January, with resources set to be fully depleted in March.
- A November multi-sectoral assessment for cash-based transfers (CBT) recommended that such interventions begin in January, but only in Kasai Central when sufficient quantities of local commodities are expected to be available there.
- WFP is therefore revising its timescale for CBT implementation, which is slated to reach 150,000 beneficiaries by April at the latest.
- **In eastern DRC** WFP continued providing food

assistance to refugees and IDPs in crisis-affected areas, including Ituri, North and South Kivu and Tanganyika, through a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO).



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **Kasai Region:** In November, WFP supported 225,000 conflict-affected people via GFDs, 12 percent more than planned, with partners World Vision and VIFEDE in Kasai Central, and Christian Aid, OXFAM and ADRA in Kasai.
- In December, WFP plans to reach 400,000 people with GFDs.
- In Kasai and Kasai Central, respectively 7,400 and 7,160 children aged 6-23 months received PlumpyDoz under the EMOP's prevention of acute malnutrition component. Some 2,860 and 3,100 children aged 6-59 months were given PlumpySup for treatment of moderate acute malnutrition.
- Under a blanket supplementary feeding programme that started in December, 3,620 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) received targeted food rations in lieu of SuperCereal, pending the availability of the latter.
- Screening of potential beneficiaries of the EMOP's nutritional support component continued, by ADRA in Kasai, CARITAS in Kasai Central and CONOPRO in Kasai Oriental.
- **Eastern DRC:** WFP assisted 365,723¹ conflict affected IDPs, refugees and returnees in November, including 40,335 people in Tanganyika.
- **CAR Refugees:** In North Ubangi province in December, in collaboration with UNHCR, WFP started providing food assistance via CBT to 27,765 recently-arrived refugees and 7,221 host families in four villages. WFP continued to provide CBT to 59,000 refugees in four camps in North and South Ubangi provinces.



Supply Chain

- To enhance storage capacity near Kasai region distribution sites, improve the utilization of available trucking capacity and facilitate timely distributions, four Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) have been set up in Kasai (Kamonia territory) and Kasai Central (Tshikula, Tshimbulu and Lubondayi territories). In Tshikapa, four MSUs are operational. Additional storage space will be onstream in Kananga end-December.
- 52 of the 53 additional trucks ordered for the Kasai EMOP have landed in-country, 16 of them having already reached Kasai and the balance due to arrive there by end-December.

Road conditions in Kasai have deteriorated

considerably during the rainy season, compounding access challenges.

Clusters and Common Services



Emergency Telecommunications Cluster

- The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) was officially activated on 20 November, and an ETC Coordinator deployed from WFP HQ.
- Assessment missions continued in Kasai to evaluate local capacities for internet communications and gauge the effectiveness of radio systems put in place prior to ETC activation.



Logistics Cluster

- The logistics platforms in Kananga and Tshikapa continued to receive, store and transport essential food and non-food items on behalf of humanitarian partners.
- Contingency fuel stocks are being put in place in Kananga to avoid humanitarian response delays attributable to fuel shortages.
- For up-to-date maps from the Logistics Cluster, click [here](#).



UN Humanitarian Air Service

- UNHAS has further increased the frequency of its flights in the Kasai region, and now serves seven destinations there. A 12-seater Caravan plane and Mi-8t helicopter are based at Kananga, with the latter continuing to undertake reconnaissance flights around the region to identify suitable landing sites.
- Securing enough jet fuel from commercial providers in Kananga and Mbuji-Mayi remains a challenge, so MONUSCO keeps UNHAS adequately supplied, helping to ensure flight disruptions are kept to a minimum.

Resourcing Update

- WFP requires an additional USD 80 million to sustain its Kasai operation for the next six months, and USD 34 million for its other food programmes around the DRC.

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For further information, visit the WFP [DRC page](#)

¹ Figures may be subject to revision upon final reconciliation.

