

Highlights

- Preparations for the Cost of Hunger study in DRC are underway. The official launch of the study is scheduled to take place on 14 September.
- The Ituri province authorities have set up administrative measures to facilitate humanitarian activities, including removing barriers setup by the military.

WFP Democratic Republic of Congo Country Brief

WFP Assistance

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Targeted Food Assistance to Victims of Armed Conflicts and Other Vulnerable Groups			
PRRO 200832 (Jan 2016 – Dec 2017)	242 m	70 m (29%)	29.5 m (47%)
Critical support to populations affected by the ongoing crisis in Central African Republic and its regional impact			
Regional EMOP 200799 (Jan – Dec 2016**)	26 m	6.6 m (25%)	1.6 m (53%)
Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in DRC (UNHAS)			
SO 200789 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2016**)	56.7 m	50m (89%)	N/A
Logistics Cluster Coordination and Information Management in the Democratic Republic of Congo			
SO 200747 (Dec 2014 – Nov 2016)	2.3 m	1.9 m (80%)	N/A
Emergency Road Rehabilitation			
SO 200864 (Aug 2015 – July 2017)	22.7 m	2 m (9%)	N/A

*August 2016 – February 2017

**Project ending in December.

GENDER MARKER 2A  PRRO 200832

200832: This Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) aims to assist 3.2 million people by providing life-saving food assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees in crisis-affected areas; contribute to reducing the prevalence of acute malnutrition through nutrition support and treatment for children aged 6-59 months and to pregnant and nursing women; facilitate rehabilitation and reconstruction of destroyed assets, including feeder roads, markets, productive, and social infrastructure; increase the resilience of severely food insecure communities to shocks; and enhance national capacity to respond to disasters.

200799: This Emergency Operation (EMOP) provides assistance to 70,000 refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR) residing in DRC. Assistance to the host communities was planned but has been put on hold due to funding constraints.

200789: The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) provides reliable links between the capital and the eastern provinces, as well as access to deep-field locations, including the ex-Equateur Province.

200747: This Special Operation (SO) aims to provide logistics support to the humanitarian community through Logistics Cluster activities and services under WFP's leadership. The Logistics Cluster provides air and road transport as well as storage facilities to humanitarian partners and Government Ministries responding to the plight of IDPs in the eastern conflict area.

200864: This SO targets 200 km of roads where mechanized spot repairs will improve humanitarian access to vulnerable people, such as IDPs and allow smallholder farmers to transport their produce to nearby markets.

In Numbers

7.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance

1.8 million people displaced

5.9 million people in food insecurity and livelihood crisis

860,500 people assisted through the PRRO and EMOP from January to June 2016

Operational Updates

- In the North Kivu province, WFP provided 470 mt. of food assistance to 55,000 vulnerable and recently displaced persons. However, seven sites along the Nyanzale Axe did not receive assistance during the month due to the ongoing conflict in the area, which has temporarily emptied four of the seven sites (Kikuku, Nyanzale Marche, Kashalira, and Goroba). The three others are temporarily inaccessible due to the security situation.
- WFP distributed a total of 42 mt of monthly rations to 2,508 IDPs residing in a spontaneous camp in Buleusa in North Kivu.
- A total of 8.5 mt of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) were distributed to 1,700 newly displaced households in in Uvira territory in South Kivu that have escaped fighting between the FARDC and various armed groups.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to 12,000 South Sudanese refugees residing in Dungu territory in the Haut-Uele province. In addition, 13 mt of HEB were distributed to 5,000 newly arrived refugees in Faradje and Aru territories in Haut-Uele and Ituri provinces.
- In August, 45,500 refugees from Central-African Republic received their monthly food assistance through cash and vouchers. In addition, 8,000 refugees received in-kind food assistance.

Challenges

- Insecurity due to armed conflicts, bad road infrastructure (ferryboats, bridges), impassable roads, and insufficient resources have either delayed the delivery of food or hampered WFP from implementing some of its activities.
- Increasing tensions are reported between the Luba and Twa (Pygmy) communities which could destabilize the Nyunzu area in Tanganyika province.
- Due to a lack of roads and functioning bridges, 23,000 people in Opienge in Tshopo province are still not receiving humanitarian assistance. The Logistics Cluster has evaluated that the costs of repair amounts to USD 1 million for the Bafwabalinga – Opienge passage (144 km.).
- The continued influx of South Sudanese refugees is placing strain on WFP resources. As of 24 August, there were 23,000 refugees from South Sudan as documented by UNHCR. WFP submitted a proposal to CERF for food assistance to the South Sudanese refugee population.

Country Background & Strategy



The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is Africa's second largest country. Due to its rich and fertile soil, agriculture is the primary rural economic activity. However, the nation has a food production deficit estimated at 30-40 percent. Seventy percent of the population lives below the poverty line and lacks access to adequate food.

Given the huge humanitarian needs in the DRC and limited resources available, the country office conducted a prioritization exercise which led to a reduced geographical scope for the PRRO; this is in line with WFP's revised priorities in DRC. The prioritization exercise focused on addressing the acute needs of conflict affected populations in eastern DRC and the needs of the refugees from the CAR in ex-Equateur Province in the West.

In addition to the geographical re-focusing, WFP also prioritized its activities to achieve the following objectives: relief assistance to IDPs and refugees using the most efficient and effective combination of means of assistance (cash-based transfers and food distributions); refocused school feeding in emergency and transitional contexts, treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in priority areas, prevention of acute malnutrition in areas where Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) exceeds 15 percent and support to people returning to areas of origin through food assistance for assets intervention.

WFP has been present in the DRC since 1973.

Population: **70 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
176 out of 188

Income Level: **Low income country**

Chronic malnutrition: **43% of children between 6-59 months**

Donors

USA, Canada, Japan, UN Common Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF), EU, Germany, Switzerland